

ARTICLE IX

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Municipal Elections

Section 77. The regular city election shall be held on an annual date set by ordinance by the City Council, or as otherwise provided by law, at which time members of the Council shall be elected to fill those offices that become vacant that year. The City Council shall fix the hours and the place for holding such special election. The City Council may by resolution, order a special election, fix the time and place for holding same, and provide all means for holding such special election. In the order, ordinance, or resolution of the City Council calling any election at which more than one Councilman shall be elected, the City Council shall in calling such election provide for a separate place on the ballot for each vacant seat to be filled at such election, designating the Mayor, and such Places as Place No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6. If an unexpired term is to be filled at such election, the Place for the unexpired term shall be so designated.

Regulation of Elections

Section 78. The City Council shall make all regulations which it considers needful or desirable, not inconsistent with this charter or the laws of the State of Texas, for the conduct of municipal elections, for the prevention of fraud in such elections and for the recount of ballots in case of doubt or fraud. Municipal elections shall be conducted by the appointed election authorities, who shall also have power to make such regulations not inconsistent with this charter, with any regulations made by the city council or the laws of the State of Texas.

How to Get Name on Ballot

Section 79. Any qualified person may have his name placed on the official ballot as a candidate for Councilman or Mayor at any election held for the purpose of electing Councilmen or Mayor by filing with the City Secretary at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of election a sworn application in substantially the following form:

"I, _____, do hereby certify that I am a candidate for the office of _____, and request that my name be printed upon the official ballot for that particular office in the next city election. I am a qualified voter of the State of Texas and am and have been a bona fide resident of the City of College Station, Texas, for at least one (1) year. I am not disqualified or ineligible to serve on the City Council if elected.

I reside at _____, Precinct _____, College Station, Texas. Signed

Council Ballots

Section 80. The full names of all candidates for the city council as hereinbefore provided, except such as may have withdrawn, died or become ineligible, shall be printed on the official ballot without party designation. If two candidates with the same surnames, or with names so similar as to be likely to cause confusion, are nominated, the addresses of their places of residence shall be placed with their names on the ballot. The order of the names on the ballot shall be determined by lot. The official ballot shall be printed not less than twenty (20) days before the date of election.

Laws Governing City Elections

Section 81. All City elections shall be governed, except as otherwise provided by this charter, by the laws of the State of Texas governing general and municipal elections, so far as same may be applicable thereto; and in the event there should be any failure of the general laws or of this charter to provide for some feature of the city elections, then the City Council shall have the power to provide for such deficiency; and no informalities in conducting a City election shall invalidate the same, if it be conducted fairly and in substantial compliance with the general laws, where applicable and the Charter and ordinances of the City.

Canvassing Election

Section 82. Returns of elections, general and special, shall be made by the election officers to the City Council not later than the second Wednesday next following such election, when the City Council shall canvass the returns and declare the results of the election.